



STAFF PHOTOS BY BILL BRIDLER

Brick work: Above, Jason Simmons of B&A Brick paving compacts the bricks and base. Donors' engraved bricks were placed in the patio on Thursday. The stands are freshly painted and the new sign is hung on the cack of the pressbox. (Right) David Tretnik laid bricks at the entrance to the athletic field.

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Boys & Girls • Infants to Size 10

Contractors donate time, materials at FHS

By SUZ BUCK
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The 300 commemorative bricks at Farmington High School bear the names of contributors and the sweat of contractors who have volunteered their time to install them.

Douglas Peeling of B & A Brickpaving in Farmington donated more than \$20,000 in

time and labor toward the construction of the Farmington High School brick plaza. Alan Fendt of Fendts Building Supply in Farmington contributed more than \$15,000 of materials.

Both Peeling and Fendt are Farmington residents.

"Brick paver material donated by Fendt and dispatcher Ron Haller gave the Falcon Society unlimited access to all materials

needed to complete the brick plaza with no cost to the Farmington community or school," said Diane Peeling, Douglas' wife.

At times during the brick laying period, the temperatures reached up to 110 degrees, according to Diane.

Almost 4,000 square feet of brick paving in the plaza was done by Peeling, Jason Simmons, Tim Nirganakis and Adam Perkins with help from volunteers of the Farmington High School Falcon Society.

The society, a group of parent volunteers at the high school, held a ribbon-cutting ceremony, Aug. 24 prior to the opening varsity game.

The society broke ground for the new commons area in June to improve the outdoor athletic facilities. The plaza will be available for students and sports fans to use before and after events as well as during

the school lunch hours.

"We spread 80 tons of gravel, planted bushes, trees and shrubbery," Washer said. "The concrete is done, the fence is done. To have seen the way it looked July 1 and to see how it looks six weeks later. The big stuff is in. We're real proud about it."

Both Fendt and Peeling are active in the community. They helped with the construction of the playscape at Shiawassee Park, made several donations to "Make a Wish" Foundation events and helped with the Gill Elementary playground.

Donations are still needed to help pay for construction costs, said Bob Washer, chairman of the Falcon Society. For information, call him at (248) 477-8815.

Tickets are also available for a fund-raising Nov. 16 dinner dance and auction at Vladimir's in Farmington Hills. Call Linda Hellebuyck at (248) 478-5648.

Jaycees from page A1

A new program is Jaycees Against Youth Smoking, a national Jaycee program established last year. It's a five-day module targeted toward fifth- and sixth-graders, because statistics show that is the time period when kids start to experiment.

"Teachers teach facts about smoking and what it can do to your body," Maxwell said. "We started it for the first time last year at East Middle School. We hope to expand it to the other middle schools this year."

Maxwell views her participation in the Jaycees as an opportunity to improve her leadership skills and her career.

"This is a great way to develop to it," said Maxwell, who works as a corporate buyer for Brass Crafts Manufacturing in Novi. "This is a volunteer organization. You will not be held responsible. It's sort of like a practicing ground. I now feel I can be a manager. When you deal with people on a board, you deal with different personalities."

The group is putting the final touches on a Sept. 14 event designed to celebrate the local organization's 55th anniversary.

The deadline to reserve tickets for "Golden Glory," a Special Olympics Gala, has been extended to noon Aug. 31. The event is

Friday, Sept. 14, at Vladimir's, 28125 Grand River in Farmington Hills.

"This is the first time in three years that we've done such a big event," said Maxwell, a chapter member for three years.

Proceeds will benefit Special Olympics of Oakland County.

Jan Henry, the event coordinator, said the Jaycees decided to help Special Olympics after members heard a major Special Olympics event earlier in the year fell short of its financial goal.

"We were thinking about who could benefit from some help," Henry said.

Ron Read, southeastern

regional manager for Special Olympics Michigan, said donations like those anticipated from the Jaycees Event are "the lifeblood of Special Olympics."

"We receive no public funding — state or federal," Read said.

"We are not a member of United Way and we want it that way."

No athlete pays anything to participate, Read said.

Cost is \$50 per person and includes a family style dinner, open bar and silent auction.

The dress is formal/semi-formal. The event is for those 21 and over.

Make checks payable to FAUC/Golden Glory Gala, P.O. Box 33, Farmington, MI 48332.

Trial from page A1

couple in the fifth-floor courtroom at Oakland Circuit Court in Pontiac.

Assistant Prosecutor Cheryl Matthews, to Judge Gilbert's right, rose on occasion to object to Parker's questions.

The teen has also charged that she was forced to stay in the Djoumessi basement, which smelled and became damp after

a rain. Ambe testified, "The basement is a nice place, we also used to cook there."

She also testified that Joseph Djoumessi would call the teen into the library in the home and give her homework to do. "He would sometimes question her why she didn't do her homework," she said, through an interpreter.

Some Cameroon natives speak "Pidgin English," described as broken English that is sometimes familiar to those speaking traditional English.

Questions

Following questioning of the witness on Thursday, Judge Gilbert asked if any jury members had questions. One juror asked if Ambe saw the teen punished.

"I didn't see anything like that," she said, adding the teen was treated like one of the Djoumessi's own children.

On Wednesday, Augustine Ashu, a Cameroon native who has known the Djoumessis since the mid-'80s said Joseph Djoumessi had served as president of the Cameroon Student Association of Michigan. "He's a family man, hard-working, raising three kids," Ashu said, adding Djoumessi has an excellent reputation.

Irene Nguni, a Cameroon native now living in New Jersey, also testified for the defense on Wednesday. Under questioning, Nguni said she was a cousin to both Evelyn Djoumessi and the teen.

Asked how parents in Cameroon typically discipline children, Nguni said, "It depends on what has been done." She suggested it was acceptable to "smack a child to straighten it up, so she knows what she has done is not correct."

Nguni said she had a close relationship with the teen's mother, and talked on the phone with the teen while she was staying with the Djoumessis.

"She never confided in me she was feeling bad or unhappy," Nguni testified.

The trial was scheduled to continue on Tuesday.

CORRECTION NOTICE

Due to a change in street data, the Powerman 5000 CD Anyone For Doornaday? advertised in today's Media Play insert will not be available on Tuesday, August 28. The record company has not yet determined the actual street data.

Due to a change in street data, the Mariah Carey CD Glitter advertised in today's Media Play insert will not be available until Tuesday, September 11. We apologize for any inconvenience.

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ALCOHOL AND ARTHRITIS

We know you can't drink and then drive. But is it safe to drink and expect to walk? In other words, if you have arthritis, is alcohol bad for your joints?

The direct answer is no. Alcohol plays no role in causing arthritis, nor has any effect on cartilage. Alcohol can cause muscle inflammation with resulting pain and weakness in walking and lifting. Usually your doctor can identify the effect.

Where drinking becomes an important issue is in the treatment of arthritis. A number of drugs useful in therapy can be toxic to the liver. If you use these medications, you must drink with restraint. Telling you not to drink at all is not necessary or fair since studies show that moderate use of alcohol is helpful to the heart.

The two drugs that require particular attention are methotrexate and aspirin. If you take an anti-inflammatory drug such as aspirin, motrin, or naproxen, you must be careful with your alcohol intake. These drugs can cause stomach irritation, and if the alcohol becomes additive, you can develop a bleeding ulcer. The same can occur with the newer medicines such as rofecoxib and celecoxib.

A moderate amount of wine is one glass a day; that is, up to 3 ounces. A reasonable amount of beer is one can, approximately 9 ounces. There is no information on how much, if any hard liquor is safe. The best advice is to stay away from it.

The relation of alcohol to gout is complex. I will take up that question in a separate column.

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